stocks in the Central Pool, relative needs of the various States, market availability and other related factors.

(b) The demand, allotment and offtake of rice in respect of Karnataka during the years 1983, 1984 and 1985, (upto June, 1985), has been as under:—

(*In* '000 *tonnes*)

Year	Demand	Allotment	Off-take
1983.	480.0	180.0	188.7
1984.	698.5	240.0	232.2
1985. . . . . (Up to June, 1985)	291.3	145.0	133.0

(c) Yes, Sir. The subsidy on issue of rice is estimated at Rs. 56.31 per quintal during 1985-86 exclusive of the incidence of storage and transit losses.

Quantity of imported Sugar

398. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have imported sugar during the current year;

(b) if so, the quantity and value of sugar imported by Government so far and proposed to be imported;

(c) what is the sugar production in the country during 1983-84 as against the production in 1982-83 and the estimated production during the current season;

(d) what was the comparative rise in the demand of sugar during the last three years and the extent to which demand was met with indigenous production of sugar; and

(e) the extent to which the buffer stock is likely to rise with the import of sugar and its impact on the prices of levy and free sale sugar?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) As regards the sugar imports during the current financial year 1985-86, it has been decided for the present to import about 10 lakh tonnes of sugar upto September 1985. Out of this, the quantity arrived upto 19-7-1985 is about 2.39 lakh tonnes and the approximate average C & F price works out to about Rs. 2000/- per tonne.

(c) The sugar production in 1982-83 and 1983-84 seasons was 82.32 lakh tonnes and 59.16 lakh tonnes respectively, whereas the production in the current 1984-85 season is estimated at about 61 lakh tonnes.

(d) and (e) There has been a progressive increase in the internal consumption of sugar during the last 3 years. Thus, the internal consumption of sugar in 1981-82 season was 57.11 lakh tonnes which increased to 64.79 lakh tonnes in 1982-83 season and further increased to 75.70 lakh tonnes in 1983-84 season. The major portion of the internal consumption during the said years was met from indigenously produced sugar;

The import of about 4.83 lakh tonnes made against the contracts entered into in 1984 and further imports being made against 1985 contracts are being utilised for meeting the requirement of internal consumption during 1984-85 season. This would ensure adequate availability of levy sugar as well as free sale sugar for internal consumption and would also be helpful in keeping the prices of sugar in open market at reasonable levels.